

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested. Concerning the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) set forth in the Final Office Action of May 1, 2007, the applicants have amended the claims in this paper, changing the numerical value of the upper limit variable y from 2.0 to 0.3, which effectively modifies the proportional range of Antimony and Indium in the claimed recording films. Support for this action can be found in the description of the “Fourth Embodiment” that bridges pages 19-20 of the present specification, where it is shown that cross-erasing effects are minimized and eliminated where “ y ” is within the range of the amended claim.

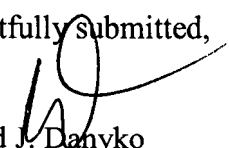
None of cited references, including Seo, disclose the cross-erasing reduction as stated in the Fourth Embodiment of the present specification. The lower limit of Indium which can obtain such a cross-erasing reduction corresponds to the chemical composition of $\text{Ge}_6\text{Sb}_2\text{In}_y\text{Te}_9$ wherein y is 0.04, i.e. the content of indium is 0.24 atomic %. The lower limit of the Fourth Embodiment differs from the lower limit described by Seo. As a result of the amendments made herein, it is believed that none of the references, including Seo, discloses the range of recording film composition recited in the pending claims, or otherwise, suggest a composition corresponding to the range now recited in the claims.

The examiner has pointed out in the May 1, 2007 Office Action that “The abstract [of Seo] further recites the used of a thin recording film provided on a substrate (abstract)” (see page 4, lines 9 to 10 of the May 1, 2007 Office Action). Upon considering Seo’s specification, it appears that the above-comment derives from the description of a recording film having 100 nm thickness (see page 5, left lower column, lines 13 to 15 of Seo). This

seems to be outside of the range of the present claimed invention, wherein the thickness of the recording film is recited as equal to or greater than 6 nm, and equal to or smaller than 13 nm.

Wherefore, based upon the foregoing, it is submitted that the present application is in condition of allowance, and a relatively early reply would be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully Submitted,



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